Introduction to Instructor: Kristoph-Dietrich Kinzli Ph.D. P.E

I was born in Aurora, Colorado and have lived in Germany or the U.S. throughout my life. My dad is from Germany and my mom is from Ann Arbor, Michigan. My parents were both teachers and taught English in Germany and taught German in high school in Denver. My mother taught at Cherry Creek High School and my dad retired from Smoky Hill High School. Currently my mom teaches at the University of Denver and spends time working at an art gallery. My dad spends his time biking and working in his rather large vegetable garden. My parents have a cabin in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains that they built in 1986 and we spent a significant portion of my childhood up in the mountains. It is one of my favorite places and I try to spend as much time there as possible fishing, hiking, backpacking and skiing.

Since my parents had the summers off as teachers, I spent much of my childhood traveling around Europe and the USA. Growing up my brother Stefan, my sister Leni and myself spoke only German. I was the first to learn English at age five and luckily have no accent. Since 2001, Germans can hold both American and German citizenship and I am a citizen of both countries. My brother Stefan has a degree in history and lives in Baltimore. He lives near Fort Meade with his wife Anndrea, son Karsten (11) and daughters Gabi (7) and Annika (2). My sister studied music at Concordia in Morehead MN and has a Master's degree in International Communication from the European University Viadrina near Berlin. She is currently living in South Sudan and works for the United Nations.

I received my Bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Colorado State in December 2003 with my coursework being completed at CSU and the Universitaet Dortmund in Dortmund, Germany. I received a Masters degree in civil engineering in May 2005 with an emphasis in hydraulics and stream restoration. My initial interest in hydraulics and water engineering originated at an early age. While in Kindergarten, I spent countless afternoons building Lego communities in my backyard sandbox with my brother Stefan. The most eventful and exciting part of the afternoon was creating miniature lakes and river systems throughout these communities with the garden hose, which often flooded the backyard much to the chagrin of my father. Since that time my interest in hydraulics has only grown. During my time studying at the Universitaet Dortmund in Germany, I visited Amsterdam and was overwhelmed by the hydraulic structures built to provide for a suitable living environment for the residents and was amazed at the efforts and progress made in reclaiming land from the sea. While studying in Germany, I also visited Venice and observed and marveled at the fact that an entire city's transportation system consists of solely water. It is through my childhood experiences and my travels in Europe that I developed a strong interest in hydraulics, water resources, and river mechanics. Throughout my civil engineering Masters program I conducted research at the CSU hydraulics lab at the renowned Engineering Research Center. This time can basically be summarized as a wonderful time playing with water!

After finishing my Masters in civil engineering I decided that I wanted to pursue a career teaching engineering. To accomplish this goal I enrolled in the Ph.D. program at CSU and graduated in May 2010. My Ph.D. research was conducted in New Mexico along the Rio Grande and focused on improving agricultural water use to leave more water in the Rio Grande for the endangered Rio Grande silvery minnow. One day during my studies my advisor suggested that I take a fisheries biology class in order to understand the issues related to the Rio Grande silvery minnow in depth. I absolutely loved the class and immediately proceeded to take more fisheries classes. While taking fisheries classes at Colorado State I began to feel that my

education in regards to stream restoration and hydraulics was incomplete. Without any knowledge in fisheries biology and fish ecology, developing a restoration plan for a river or stream is utterly futile. The most efficient hydraulic design from a mechanics standpoint would most likely destroy critical habitat and alter flow regimes that fish are adapted to. There are many classical examples, especially in the Pacific Northwest, where engineers have designed dams and channels without any concerns for fish and wildlife. The overall designs were hydraulically efficient and effective but the results have been disastrous. To bridge the gap between hydraulic engineers and fisheries biologists I obtained a second Master's degree in Fisheries, Wildlife and Conservation Biology in December 2008. I successfully passed my PE in the spring of 2011 and became a full member of ASCE – The American Society of Civil Engineers. I am currently involved with the ASCE student chapter and we have many cool projects going on this year such as a concrete canoe, and a steel bridge! Please come join the student chapter as we need plenty of help for these cool projects.

I spend my time away from school and work being a dad, playing soccer, fishing, and enjoying the outdoors. I have played soccer for 32 years and played for CSU, the Northern Colorado Cutthroats (PASL) and played for 7 months in the German fifth division. Besides soccer my hobbies include fly-fishing, camping, hiking, reading and traveling. I enjoy building my own fly rods and love fishing in Colorado's high mountain lakes. A few years back I restored an old Porsche, which I found for sale on a dirt road in the middle of nowhere, NM. If you are a car nut you can check out my blog about my restoration http://forums.pelicanparts.com/porsche-911-technical-forum/660560-saving-rat-restoring-69t.html. I also have an old turquoise Jeep Cherokee that I am slowly turning into an off road adventure machine.

During my time in Albuquerque I met my wife Anna at the University of New Mexico German Club. We were married over Thanksgiving 2011 at Barefoot Beach in Bonita Springs FL. She is originally from Budapest and has lived all over the USA including New York, Idaho, Texas, Florida, and now Colorado! She taught Composition, French, and World Literature at Florida Gulf Coast University in the Department of Language and Literature but is currently a full time mom to our three small children. Our daughter Leni turned 2 on December 3rd and our identical twin sons Torsten and Wolfgang turned 4 in October. The kids are an absolute joy as long as they are not crying ;-). They have been keeping us busy and it has been an amazing experience watching the three of them develop over the last few months. We spent two months this last summer on an adventures in Hungary, New Mexico and Colorado. We did several camping trips in our VW Eurovan (Mesa Verde, Sand Dunes, Black Canyon, Ouray, Buena Vista) and visited family in Albuquerque. We also managed to spend 1 week in the Sangre de Christo Mountains at my parent's cabin. We spent a bunch of time over Christmas Break teaching our kids how to cross country ski and both of my siblings were here, which was wonderful. The biggest development in our lives is our recent move to Colorado (1 year ago) and my job here at the Colorado School of Mines. I am extremely excited and honored to be part of such a prestigious department and institution and look forward to the coming semester.

We love to explore new places so please let us know your favorite places to fish, camp and hike. I look forward to getting to know you this semester not only academically but also personally. I take seriously my responsibility to teach this class and hope you keep me informed about your concerns and questions. I am extremely excited to be your professor and am looking forward to a great semester. Feel free to come to my office at any time (122 Chauvenet) or contact me at kkinzli@mines.edu.

Now I'd like to get to know you. Please write me an introduction to student following my format. Please make yours at least a page and please include a headshot of yourself and any other pictures that exemplify you. Also please include a paragraph about why you are studying engineering and what branch of civil and environmental engineering most fascinates you and why it fascinates you.